



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0202

APRIL 8, 2002

Cooler Temperatures

Cooler temperatures during the week delayed the development of spring crops in some areas. Farmers had an average of 5.2 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending April 7th which they used to continue land preparation and planting activities. Small amounts of **potatoes, tomatoes, cantaloupes, watermelons, snap beans and sweet corn** have been planted thus far. **Peaches, apples and strawberries** have begun to bloom in some areas however weather conditions have held the progression below the average for this time of year.

Small grains were reported in mostly fair to good condition with **winter wheat** rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. **Barley** was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 73 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Pasture was rated 4 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. **Hay supplies** were rated 11 percent very short, 19 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

Rain showers over the past couple of weeks have helped, however much more is needed to restore soil moisture to adequate levels. **Topsoil moisture** is 4 percent very short, 44 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** is 38 percent very short, 46 percent short, 16 percent adequate.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING April 7, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Planting Progress:				
Corn	4	--	1	3
Potatoes	41	11	2	43
Green Peas	42	27	35	42
Sweet Corn	7	4	7	7
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Apples	3	1	3	17
Peaches	25	3	6	38
Strawberries	10	3	11	16

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING April 7, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	4	44	51	1
Topsoil (2001)	0	3	69	28
Subsoil Moisture	38	46	16	0
Subsoil (2001)	0	5	77	18

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